



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, Idaho's older citizens are the foundation of our Idaho way of life; their ingenuity and creativity, hard work and sacrifice, their inspirational courage are responsible for the freedoms and security we now enjoy; and

WHEREAS, citizens age sixty and older make up 15% of the states population; and

WHEREAS, our older citizens will soon be joined by the 5% of Idahoans age 55 to 59, and then by the 28% of Idahoans age 35 to 54, combining to make up the largest elder population ever known in our state; and

WHEREAS, in 1976 Idaho lawmakers recognized the need to provide basic necessities to our older citizens by passing the Senior Services Act, and to allocate state funds to aid local governments and communities in providing efficient community services for citizens in their later years; and

WHEREAS, these community services are designed to help older people remain in their own homes and communities, living safe, independent lives with dignity; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the Idaho Legislature amended State Law 63-36220 to further aid local community and home-based services by extending sales tax exemptions to our senior citizen's centers; and

WHEREAS, services funded by the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended, are also allocated by the State to help elder Idahoans remain secure, healthy and independent; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that Idaho join the Nation by honoring a 39-year-old national tradition and designate the month of May as a time to celebrate the contributions of older Americans and to rededicate our efforts to better serve elder Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May 2002, to be

OLDER AMERICAN MONTH

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this third day of May in the year of our Lord two-thousand and two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-sixth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twelfth.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

PETE T. CENARRUSA
SECRETARY OF STATE

